

6-26-2007

## Daily Eastern News: June 26, 2007

Eastern Illinois University

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# the DAILY EASTERN NEWS

TUESDAY  
6.26.07

Eastern Illinois University, Charleston

Volume | 93 Issue | 84

## UNIVERSITY

# Public wrestles with board

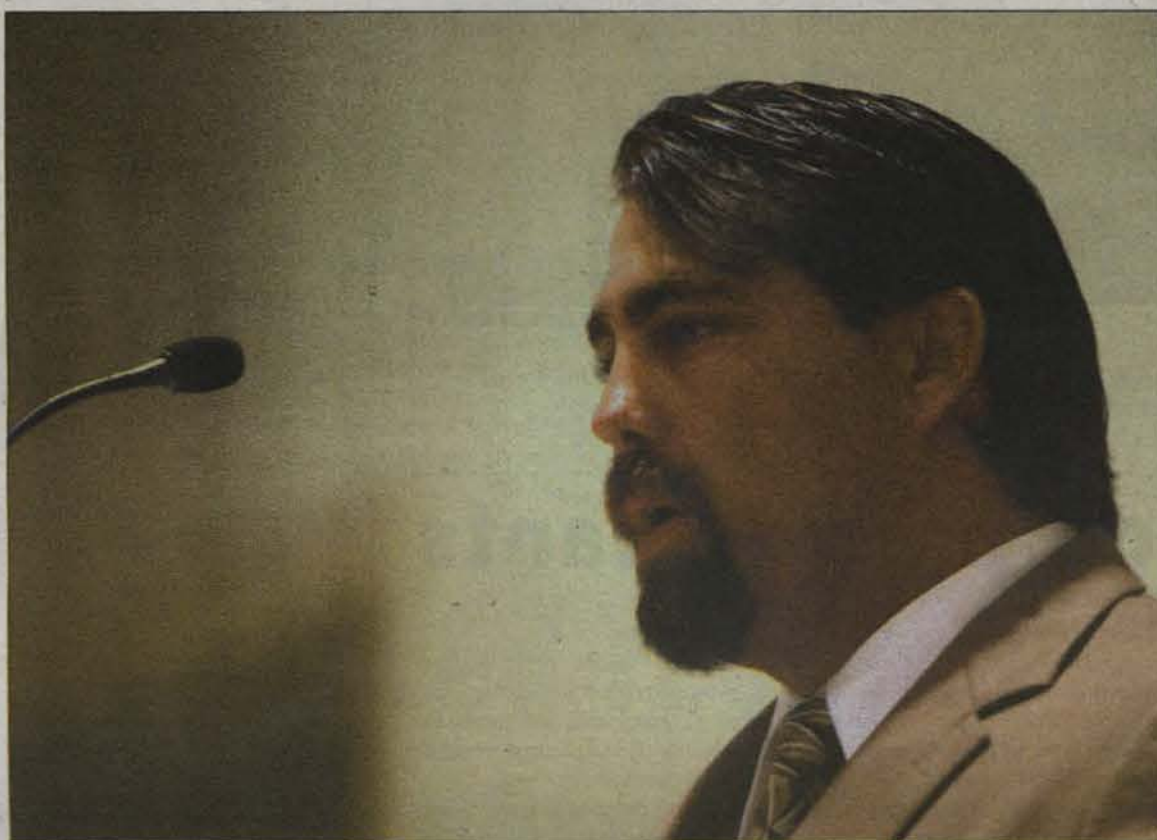
**EIU met with local and national opposition after wrestling program is cut**

By Seth Miller  
Online Editor  
and  
Jeffrey Wallace  
Opinions Editor

It has been over a month since the administration had made the decision to cut the Eastern wrestling program. According to the administration, the wrestling program was cut because student athletes failed to live up to the standards set by the APR.

Within days of the announcement, a campaign to bring wrestling back to Eastern began to move forward. Online web sites such as SaveEIUWrestling.com and a Facebook group with the same name created by Eastern student and wrestler Lenny Grodosky. Eastern wrestling coach Ralph McCausland also contributed to the cause by writing a column to the Times-Courier in Charleston about how he believed the administration used the APR as an excuse to cut the wrestling program. The program had been in danger before in 1995 following an issue with Title IX; the rule states there must be an equal number of men and women's sports on campus.

The issue of the wrestling program being cut culminated



AMIR PRELLBERG | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Eastern Alumnus Michael Layne speaks Board of Trustees Monday afternoon at the University Ballroom in MLK Jr. University Union. "I think the (athletic director) did a grave disservice to student athletes" Layne said. Mr. Layne is a teacher in Murphysboro, IL and encourages his wrestlers to look at Eastern who want to wrestle while continuing their education.

Monday afternoon in the University Ballroom in the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union for the Board of Trustees meeting.

The elimination of the wrestling program was not the only topic discussed at Monday's Board of Trustees meeting as several people voiced their opinions on the

controversy over graduate students being allowed to teach lower level classes in the Biological Sciences department.

Monday's Board of Trustees meeting drew a large crowd of people, most of who were there in show of support of the reinstatement of Eastern's wrestling

program. The people in attendance varied from students, families, wrestlers, wrestling coaches and representatives of the wrestling community from across the state and country.

Many people wore large, blue buttons that had "panther wrestling" printed on them. Others wore EIU

wrestling t-shirts or t-shirts for other wrestling programs, showing support for the troubled program in anyway they could.

Clayton French, a graduate student and EIU assistant wrestling coach was one of the people on hand to show support for the wrestling team. "There are so many student athletes that are able to get degrees because of our program" French said. "If they take it away what are they supposed to do?" he said. "These guys here are only a few that have been helped by EIU wrestling."

Many EIU wrestlers were in attendance as well, including Greg Perz. "I walked onto the team and became a two-time Academic All American" Perz said. "Being here has let me learn a few things and see the world" he said. "Hopefully this turnout today will make a difference in keeping wrestling at Eastern."

Perz also revealed plans to transfer to the University of Wyoming if the wrestling program at Eastern is not reinstated so that he can continue his collegiate wrestling career.

Among the arguments for the reinstatement of EIU's wrestling program is that it provides opportunities for high school students to go to college.

Mark Bullington, a high school and junior high wrestling coach from Collinsville stated "Illinois is one of the toughest wrestling states and we want to keep it that way. Cutting programs is not the way to do it."

» SEE WRESTLES, PAGE 5

## CAMPUS

# WEIU beats the media to the scene

**WEIU interns are first to arrive on at the Arcola stand-off incident last Thursday**

By Adam Tedder  
Editor-in-Chief

WEIU interns Chris Obarski and Zach Groves went to work like they had everyday of the summer. They thought it was going to be a slow day working in the sports department.

They could not have been any more wrong.

Obarski and Groves were the first broadcast journalists on scene to cover the Arcola hostage standoff last Thursday when William B. Thompson and Yusef Kareem Brown, were arrested after a high-speed chase and standoff at the First Mid-Illinois Bank & Trust branch in Arcola and allegedly shooting Douglas deputy Tom Martin in the face and torso.

The two WEIU interns said they

were on scene at around 11 a.m., 10 to 15 minutes before any other news stations had arrived.

But they both said it did not stay that way for long. They described the scene as constantly changing with many law enforcement agencies and media surrounding the event.

"By the time we got there, the perimeter had already been made and it was pretty far away," Obarski said.

But they insisted it did not discourage them as Groves said they were able to become creative with their camera shots.

They said they were treated with respect while covering the story by the other media outlets.

"We were able to ask two questions at the press conference," Obarski said. He continued to say that usually most news stations were only able to ask one question.

But they liked the competition they were facing.

"You have to be ready," Groves said. "Those guys are like machine guns with questions."

At around 11:30 a.m., a second

crew was sent to help out. Andrew Wilder, sports anchor/producer and summer trainer for interns, was one of the people sent to Arcola in the second vehicle.

Wilder said the second crew helped out significantly.

"We split the crew," Wilder said. "We had one crew covering the north-east side and one covering the south-west side. We were able to get the story from two angles."

Throughout the standoff, the danger of the situation had entered their minds, but they said they did not let it get to them.

"It was kind of a weird feeling, ...because we were so far back," Obarski said.

Groves said he felt similar.

"Not really, I had too much of a rush," Groves said. "There is so much uncertainty everyday with this job. Our job is to get out there, get it shot and get the story first, most importantly."

Wilder said he was not scared, but said he had a moment of realizing the seriousness of the situation.

"On a scale of how important



AMIR PRELLBERG | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

WEIU interns Chris Obarski (left) and Zach Groves (right) stand in front of the WEIU Digital Production Bus Monday evening outside of Buzzard Hall. These two broadcast journalists were the first to arrive at the Arcola standoff last Thursday.

this was, I was on my cell phone and all of the sudden I hear this loud sound," Wilder said. "There is a U.S. helicopter and I watch it come down and land 20 feet in front of me. I said, 'I think I'm going to

have to call you back.' I think, this is a serious situation."

» SEE WEIU, PAGE 5



## Take a closer look



AMIR PRELLBERG | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

## Fireworks Tent

Charleston 4th grader, Tyler Cody, helps his mother JoDee Gibson at the fireworks tent at the corner of Douglas and Lincoln. The tent will be there until July 5 and carries over 60 different types of fireworks. In Illinois it is legal to have fireworks that have 500 grams or less of gunpowder.

## \$54 million pair of pants

## Judge throws out dry-cleaning lawsuit

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON, D.C. | A judge ruled Monday that no pair of pants is worth \$54 million, rejecting a lawsuit that took a dry cleaner's promise of "Satisfaction Guaranteed" to its most litigious extreme.

Roy L. Pearson became a worldwide symbol of legal abuse by seeking jackpot justice from a simple complaint — that a neighborhood dry cleaners lost the pants from a new suit and tried to give him a pair that were not his.

His claim, reduced from \$67

million, was based on a strict interpretation of the city's consumer protection law — which imposes fines of \$1,500 per violation, per day — as well as damages for inconvenience, mental anguish and attorney's fees for representing himself.

But District of Columbia Superior Court Judge Judith Bartnoff ruled that the owners of Custom Cleaners did not violate the consumer protection law by failing to live up to Pearson's expectations of the "Satisfaction Guaranteed" sign once displayed in the store window.

"A reasonable consumer would not interpret 'Satisfaction Guaranteed' to mean that a merchant is required to satisfy a customer's unreasonable demands,"

the judge wrote.

Bartnoff wrote that Pearson, an administrative law judge, also failed to prove that the pants the dry cleaner tried to return were not the pants he took in.

Bartnoff ordered Pearson to pay clerical court costs of about \$1,000 to defendants Soo Chung, Jin Nam Chung and Ki Y. Chung.

A motion to recover the Chungs' tens of thousands of dollars in attorney fees will be considered later.

"Judge Bartnoff has spoken loudly in suggesting that, while consumers should be protected, abusive lawsuits like this will not be tolerated," the Chung's attorney, Chris Manning, said in a statement.

Pearson did not respond to a call

and an e-mail seeking comment.

The case began in 2005 when Pearson became a judge and brought several suits for alterations to Custom Cleaners in Washington. A pair of pants from one suit was missing when he requested it two days later.

Pearson asked the cleaners for the full price of the suit: more than \$1,000.

But a week later, the Chungs said the pants had been found and refused to pay.

Pearson said those were not his pants and decided to sue.

Over the course of the litigation, the Chungs said they made three settlement offers — \$3,000, then \$4,600, then \$12,000 — all rejected.

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## Comments | Tips

Contact any of the above staff members you believe your information is relevant to at their provided e-mail address.

You may also call 581-7942 or visit the student publications newsroom at 1811 Buzzard Hall.

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The Daily Eastern News is looking for these and numerous other positions for next year. Please contact us, if you are interested because interviews and training will begin soon!



# U of I tastes charity

## Champaign area holds festival for scholarship

U-Wire

**CHAMPAIGN** | Under a sometimes overcast sky more reminiscent of January than of June, people from all walks of life packed into West Side Park on Friday, Saturday and Sunday for the 37th annual Taste of Champaign-Urbana.

However, much more was going on than the simple selling of food. Musicians pumped music into the air, artisans displayed their work in booths scattered around the park and kids were treated to pony rides and a petting zoo. In all, the roads were packed with families and couples out to eat, have a good time and support a good cause.

The Taste of Champaign-Urbana was developed 37 years ago to support the Champaign Park District's Youth Scholarship Fund.

"The fund provides opportunities for area youth who are not financially able to participate in our programs," said Laura Auteberry, the event's marketing manager. "We're proud of it in that way."

With more than 100 booths this year, it has grown since the original incarnation. Last year alone, more than 50,000 people attended the Taste, raising \$23,000 for the fund. And despite the rainout on Saturday evening, organizers are hopeful that they will break last year's mark both in terms of fundraising and participation. Organization and hard work are key to keep the show running. While it takes months to plan, setup began early last week. Tents went up on Tuesday as well as the electrical generators and wires.

Early on Friday morning, hours before the 5 p.m. opening, park district staff arrived to organize the vendors and get everything ready for the public.

"I've been here early every day," Auteberry said. "It takes a lot of people, well over 100 people to run everything."

A majority of that workforce is volunteer. Many families and friends of park staff volunteer, especially the children of park district families, Auteberry said.

In addition to the fund, other organizations were selling food to support philanthropic projects. Champaign County Historical Museum was selling lemon shake-ups and popcorn, and Champaign Central High School was working to send its band to New York City for the Veteran's Day Parade.

As Damon MacNaught sat in a foldout chair, in front of him lay a table full of glass artwork. Vases, Christmas tree ornaments and candlesticks of various shapes and colors were carefully placed because of their brittle nature.

"All of (these pieces) is just me fooling around," he said. "I usually do more sculptural works. Each one, however, is a renewed challenge."

In addition to the food, for which the Taste of C-U is known, artisans come from all over to display their work and drum up business. MacNaught was mainly using the event to help jump-start his new business.

## weatheroutlook

**TODAY**  
**85° | 70°**  
Afternoon thunderstorms

**WEDNESDAY**  
**83° | 70°**  
Scattered thunderstorms

**THURSDAY**  
**79° | 63°**  
Scattered thunderstorms

## TASTE OF CHAMPAIGN-URBANA



GCT13.COM | DAN O'BRIEN

A view of one of the avenues at the 37th annual Taste of Champaign Urbana, which has taken place from Friday, June 22 to Sunday, June 24 at the city's West Side Park. Despite periodic thunderstorms over the weekend, turnout exploded in response to the nearly 37 restaurants, 26 entertainers and over 50 arts and crafts booths. Proceeds from the Taste of Champaign-Urbana benefit the Champaign Park District's Youth Scholarship Fund, which aids residents who are unable to participate in recreational programs due to financial difficulties.

## CHARLESTON

# Required reading starts this fall

## EIU implements new part of first-year panthers' education

By Barbara Harrington  
Staff Reporter

Incoming freshmen are being given their first assignment before they even have to attend their first classes as Eastern students in the fall. This summer marks the beginning of the freshmen summer reading initiative, Eastern Reads!

All freshmen are required to read Ron Suskind's "A Hope in the Unseen" by August, as well as answer reflective questions on the material.

Suskind's book follows honor student Cedric Jennings during his last two years of high school and into his first year of college, cataloging his many struggles and achievements.

The lessons illustrated in the book are ones that freshmen will be able to relate to as they begin the transition from high school to college in the fall, said Eastern Reads! discussion leader Dr. Kathleen Bower.

Having seen freshmen students become easily frustrated with academics, Bower believes Cedric's story will help prepare students for the changes ahead.

"Everybody struggles freshmen year and gets bad grades," she said.

Bower has observed that many students who are in their first semester feel overwhelmed by the level of material covered in courses and the quick pace of college classes.

But she believes "A Hope in the Unseen" will provide students with valuable advice to apply to many aspects of their lives.

"Never ever give up. I see so many freshmen who just give up halfway through the semester. Cedric faced challenges and he kept going. His

education was a value to him," she said.

At EIU Debut the freshmen are instructed to complete the book by the beginning of the fall semester, as well as answer a series of reflective questions on the material.

"When I first heard we were supposed to read a book, I think the general consensus of the group, including myself, was somewhat disappointed," said incoming freshman Lindsay Harper.

"But we are beginning college in the fall, and Eastern is just trying to make that transition easier for us."

Eastern Reads! is designed to help freshmen adjust to campus life, illustrate that reading and thought are an essential part of the academic college experience and remind students that Eastern values their intellectual development, according to the Eastern Reads! website.

Students will discuss the book and questions on Friday, Aug. 17, as part of a mandatory Prowl activity.

The sessions will be led by faculty members and will allow freshmen to participate in intellectual discussions similar to those they will experience in classes.

In addition to the discussions in August, several activities will take place during the fall semester to help students explore the themes and issues presented in "A Hope in the Unseen."

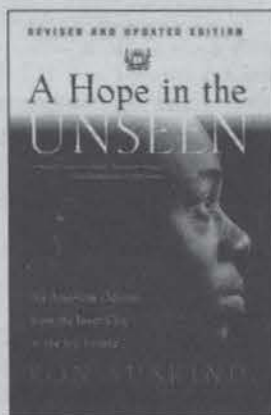
Among these activities are an

essay contest and a film mini-series.

EIU Reads! will conclude with a visit to campus from Jennings himself.

While a bit skeptical at first, freshman like Harper plan to embrace their first academic opportunity as Eastern students.

"I'm interested to see what the other students think about the book and if they thought it was helpful," Harper said.



"A Hope in the Unseen"



Ron Suskind, author

## CAMPUS

TUESDAY  
6.26.07

## Douglas deputy remains in 'critical condition' after shooting

» A Douglas County deputy remained in critical condition Sunday after he was shot in the face and torso, which ended in the Arcola hostage crisis at one of its banks.

Chief Deputy Tom Martin is being cared for at Carle Foundation Hospital in Urbana on Sunday afternoon. Although he was listed as "critical," officials at the Douglas County Sheriff's Department reported Martin was "stable."

Martin was shot by one of two men arrested Thursday. William B. Thompson, 26, and Yusef Kareem Brown, 23, allegedly fled from State police in a silver Infiniti Thursday morning.

The two stole a pickup truck and a van after they robbed a house and shot Martin while driving by. Two two fled from police in a chase through rural Douglas County, ending at the Arcola bank.

## Former Illinois Governor funds two speakers per year at EIU

» Former Illinois Gov. Jim Edgar and his wife, Brenda, have created a speaker series at Eastern Illinois University.

The couple donated \$150,000 to the university to help bring political speakers to the school for students to hear and learn from.

The speaker series will allow Eastern to host two lectures a year, focusing on state government and current issues.

The two hope that despite Charleston's small size the lectures will enhance learning opportunities for students.

Speakers will also be given a chance to visit classrooms with students during their time on campus. Former Gov. Edgar will begin as Fall '07's speaker, with his wife following as the Spring '08's speaker.

Both are Eastern alumni, and met and married during their time at Eastern during the late 1960s.

## Habitat for Humanity raises two houses in one day

» In what was termed the Blitz-Build, a joint effort between the Coles County Habitat for Humanity and the Salisbury Church, two closed-in houses have been built in a day's time.

Beginning only with foundations, nearly 75 volunteers joined forces to complete everything but floorplans for two houses for Aaron and Paula DeRousse, and Carrie Ward and her 6-year-old daughter Dru Howell.

Both houses were not the first projects a Blitz-Build occurred for the Coles County Habitat for Humanity, and the furnishings of each respective house will be set by the families.

The DeRousses have three children and, after living in a mobile home, decided it was time to get a real house. Ward also applied for Habitat for Humanity for the similar reason of wanting stability for herself and her daughter.

## COMMENTS | CORRECTIONS | EVENTS

To report any errors, local events or general suggestions for future editions please contact our news editor, **Katey Mitchell**, via:  
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Office visit | 1811 Buzzard Hall.



# VIEWS

TUESDAY  
06.26.07

## Bong hits 4 Jesus not free speech

The Associated Press

**WASHINGTON** | A high school student's "Bong Hits 4 Jesus" banner got slapped down by the Supreme Court in a decision Monday that restricts student speech rights when the message seems to advocate illegal drug use.

The court ruled 5-4 in the case of Joseph Frederick, who unfurled his handiwork at a school-sanctioned event in 2002, triggering his suspension and leading to a lengthy court battle.

"The message on Frederick's banner is cryptic," Chief Justice John Roberts said. But the school principal who suspended him "thought the banner would be interpreted by those viewing it as promoting illegal drug use, and that interpretation is plainly a reasonable one," Roberts said in the majority opinion.

In a concurrence, Justices Samuel Alito and Anthony Kennedy said the court's opinion "goes no further" than speech interpreted as dealing with illegal drug use.

"It provides no support" for any restriction that goes to political or social issues, they said.

In dissent, Justice John Paul Stevens said the ruling "does serious violence to the First Amendment."

Students in public schools don't have the same rights as adults, but neither do they leave their constitutional protections at the schoolhouse gate, the court said in a landmark speech-rights ruling from the Vietnam era.

The court limited what students can do in subsequent cases, saying they may not be disruptive or lewd or interfere with a school's basic educational mission.

Frederick said his banner was a nonsensical message that he first saw on a snowboard. He intended it to proclaim his right to say anything at all.

Frederick displayed his handiwork on a winter morning as the Olympic torch made its way through Juneau, Alaska, en route to the Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City.

School principal Deborah Morse said the phrase was a pro-drug message. Frederick denied that he was advocating for drug use and brought a federal civil rights lawsuit.

Former independent counsel Ken Starr, whose law firm represented the school principal, called it a narrow ruling that "should not be read more broadly."

Taking issue with that, Steven R. Shapiro, national legal director of the American Civil Liberties Union, said, "It is difficult to know what its impact will be in other cases involving unpopular speech."

The Students for Sensible Drug Policy said it was sad that the court thought there should be a drug exception to the First Amendment.

In their concurrence Alito and Kennedy said that the decision "goes no further than to hold that a public school may restrict speech that a reasonable observer would interpret as advocating illegal drug use."

Nor does it address political or social issues such as the wisdom of the war on drugs or of legalizing marijuana for medicinal use, Alito and Kennedy said.

Stevens said the First Amendment protects student speech if the message itself neither violates a permissible rule nor expressly advocates conduct that is illegal and harmful to students.

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DRAWN FROM THE NEWS | DAVID PENNELL



### ourview

## Wrestling not going down without a fight

This Monday marked another session of the Board of Trustees meeting to deal with important issues on Eastern. The summer sessions are lack in population compared to the school year, so it wasn't expected that a whole lot of people would show up to the meeting. On this Monday, more than 100 people were in attendance.

Why? Because they cared about the sport of wrestling on this campus, enough to come before the Board of Trustees in the hope that they could get their beloved program on its feet after it had been cancelled due to academic performance.

What did all the work of these dedicated students, faculty, fellow wrestlers, and coaches from high school to colleges equal to at the meeting. Nothing more than a few impassioned speeches from those Michael W. Moyer, executive director of the National Wrestling Coaches Association, and Michael Layne, a high school wrestling coach and Eastern wrestling alum from 1992, which seemed to do little to sway the board who responded with a written speech about their decision and then moved on to the issue of graduate students teaching labs in the biology department.

We here at the Daily Eastern News feel that this level of attention was significantly less than what they deserved for the commitment they put in to save this program.

The Charleston community has put in an enormous amount of support to try and keep wrestling from going under. The Facebook group started by Lenny Grodoski has gained over 1200 members and is still gaining members, wrestling coaches from all over Illinois showed up to the meeting with the hope of being heard.

Instead, in a meeting that was over an hour and a half long, the issue of wrestling was discussed for about 20 minutes. The board exhibited bad form by not allowing for more discussion on the matter that brought the crowd.

They knew from the crowd that this was an important issue but did not see fit to give it their full attention or more than two speakers who brought up valid points about the APR and how it could be used to aid the program instead of used as an excuse to cancel the program or the fact that cutting this program would limit the options for

high school wrestlers looking for scholarship opportunity.

The board's attitude towards the matter by giving so little opportunity to make their case demonstrated to us and the supporters of wrestling that they had little concern for the opinion of others and allowed no leeway on the issue and made the appearance of so many supporters pointless. This reduced the efforts of coaches from across Illinois who took time out of their lives to address this issue for the program and their athletes worth nothing; the board's prepared speech before the meeting was just another indication of how little they cared and it made the whole situation feel like just a formality which it should not have been.

If the board and the administration did not feel the need to change the decision on the wrestling program, they should not have asked people to speak on the matter and instead have given the supporters a valid reason for the discontinuing the program.

The APR was the reason that Athletics Director Rich McDuffie gave for getting the program, but most of the supporters of the wrestling program feel that this is not a good reason. Eastern wrestling coach Ralph McCauland and other coaches from Illinois know that the scores for the APR are based only on students who have active scholarships and receive funds from their university. With Eastern wrestling having few scholarships recipients, if one or two average lower than usual the APR gets lowered below the required level. Even if the students scored low, fellow coaches pointed out that the program offers funding and aid to help struggling programs. The supporters already knew this before attending the meeting and the board's refusal to acknowledge this belittled the supporters' intelligence.

The board also hurt themselves by seeming cold and not caring on the wrestling issue. By not acknowledging the issue of what high school wrestlers may go through or current wrestlers they appeared to be cold and thoughtless that supporters thought they were.

These people are standing up for something they believe in and the administration needs to give them the respect and attention they have earned for their efforts.

COLUMNIST | KRISTY MELLENDORF

## Working with cameras isn't all smiles

I am not unlike my fellow college colleagues. Many of the people my age balance school with work.

In Charleston, only so many options for employment exist. Students seem especially vulnerable to the limited employment options. We do not have several years of employment experience or degrees to make us desirable.

Thus, many of us work in the seemingly endless employment arena of fast food and retail in the community. This has both pros and cons.

It is a means of money and a way to meet people. I have made several friends at the job I've had for nearly two years. My list of skills has also grown.

I deal with customers on a regular basis. That is a part of the industry. Many of them do not take any outside anger out on us. Nor do they speak down to us.

A large number of the customers I deal with have the opposite reaction. I work in the photo department at one of the retailers in town. I take questions from customers about cameras several times a day.

By no means do I think that I know everything about the cameras in our department, or cameras in general.

I do work there, so I do know at least a little bit. In the photo department, several questions come our way on a consistent basis. Our equipment, at no fault of our own, is also known for breaking down on a regular basis. I am told that the age of the equipment is to blame.

When these situations occur, we know how to reply to customers' inquiries. If our equipment is down, it is not our fault. Many of our customers treat us as though it is. A common reply is "Why didn't you tell me this when I left my pictures with you?" This is where I bite my tongue, but I want to reply with "because I didn't know our printer was going to malfunction."

When I receive questions about products, it is not uncommon to get a glare in response. This glare is saying "you couldn't possibly know the information you are telling me; you are making it up." It is, in the nicest of terms, frustrating.

In my line of work, I must comply with certain federal laws, like many jobs.

Many people understand the federal copyright laws. Its the number of people that don't appear to understand the laws that get to me a little bit. These customers seem to be our angriest ones.

We have signs in our department explaining the copies of things that can and cannot be sold.

It seems to be something that we control, in the customer's eyes. We are the reason they can't have their pictures, not the government.

In many respects, my coworkers and I are also expected to have all the answers. This is not the case in all situations. I, along with my coworkers, can only give you so much information about the two-day service. It is something done in Indiana, so we can only know so much.

I would like for customers to be more understanding. I am working hard at my job, as I am sure is done at the jobs my customers work. I have a lot of respect for people who work hard at whatever they do. I would like for our customers to treat us the way they would want to be treated. I can only guess, but I would imagine it would not be to speak down to them.



Kristy Mellendorf is a senior and journalism major. She can be reached at klmel04@hotmail.com.

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## » Wrestling

FROM PAGE 1

The first half hour of the Board of Trustees meeting had the board in closed executive session.

Afterward two individuals, Michael Moyer and Michael Layne, spoke on behalf of the wrestling program.

Moyer spoke first in front of the board. "APR was created with the intent to improve grades and was not meant to be punitive" said Moyer. "The program had 4 or 5 underachieving participants out of 30 student athletes" Moyer added.

Michael Layne, EIU alumni of 1992, former wrestler, and experienced wrestling coach himself, spoke second. "I've coached

over 1000 athletes in my career and have never had an athlete become ineligible due to academic performance" Layne said. "The greatest years of my life were spent wrestling here at Eastern." He added. "If I would have known the program would be cut like it was, I would have personally done whatever I could have to keep it going."

The response from the Board of Trustees highlighted hard decision-making when it came to cutting the program. "Academics come first at Eastern. Sometimes undesired consequences are a result of our high academic standards. Our decisions are made only after careful consideration."

## » WEIU

FROM PAGE 1

They all agreed that this was nothing they expected to cover while working at WEIU and an experience that will both that will help them and never forget.

"I had never covered anything to the magnitude of this," Wilder said. "This is the most intense thing we've ever covered."

Obarksi and Groves said this experience will help them in their future because they said employers will be looking for this sort of

experience.

A chance to cover something that does not happen everyday.

"Some people work for years without ever getting a chance to cover something like this," Groves said.

Groves and Obarksi also said they think this will help the image of WEIU and may possibly help them recruit more members for future semesters.

## » Richey

FROM PAGE 8

What helped is my ballpark routine has changed little.

When I go to an MLB ballpark there are several certainties.

I know I will eat a hot dog, I know I will keep score and I know either my hands or throat will be sore from clapping too hard or yelling too much.

Of course, a few of those certainties are a bit pricey. A jumbo hot dog at Busch Stadium costs \$5.

A souvenir soda is \$5.75.

After paying \$20 or more to get a ticket to the game, you might go broke just trying to eat dinner.

This year, I had a few extra expenses at the ballpark. In an attempt to rekindle my baseball spirit of years past, I stepped into the batting cages at the Ford Family Plaza at Busch.

After seven years of not picking up a bat, I shocked myself that I actually hit a few 70 mph pitches.

There was also a pitching game where radar tracked how hard you can throw. My fastball topped out at 60 mph.

There were 12-year-old boys throwing

faster than me; hence my turn from baseball to golf and basketball as my sports of choice.

Although not a boost to my self-esteem, it was fun.

I played baseball for nine years of my life, and by stepping into the batting cage and onto the "mound" to throw a few I was transported back to those summer days when my life was nothing but the joy of the game.

Simply being at an MLB ballpark is enough to make me feel like a kid all over again.

Each time I step foot into a ballpark, I am overcome with a sense of awe.

I saw my first major league game as a 10-year-old.

Almost 10 years later, I still feel amazed that I'm going to see all of these professional athletes I've seen on TV in person.

Of course now that I'm nearing 20 I have to pay for my own food and sometimes for my own ticket, but every time I enter the ballpark I'm transported back to that 10-year-old kid who simply loved the game.

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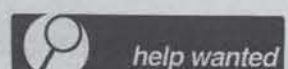
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## The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0428

## ACROSS

- 1 Table saver  
7 Gauged  
15 Cosmetics dye: Var.  
16 Primitive  
17 Up  
18 Refuse  
19 Powers that be  
20 Asylums  
21 Twin killings, in baseball: Abbr.  
22 Unidentified person  
23 Louvre Pyramid designer  
24 First name in courtroom drama  
25 Mats  
27 Like many leases  
29 Language from which "kayak" comes  
31 Last name of Dickens's Little Nell  
32 Wallet loser's concern

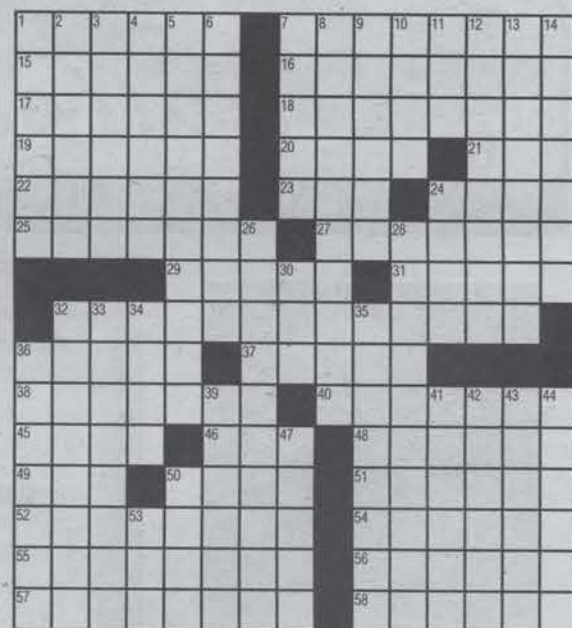
- 36 Measure of pleasure  
37 Far from laid-back  
38 Barely eats  
40 Praise to the heavens  
45 Three-time speed skating gold medalist Karin  
46 Cry of facetious innocence  
48 They may accompany sitars  
49 A.L. Central team, on scoreboards  
50 Drive, e.g.  
51 Complete  
52 Gave what for  
54 Lévi-Strauss of France  
55 Player of Principal McGee in "Grease"  
56 Secondary  
57 Alternative to a box of chocolates  
58 Joins

## DOWN

- 1 Cause anguish in  
2 Miss Ravenclaw, who co-founded Hogwarts School  
3 Rectangle or square  
4 One on a longship  
5 Hostile territory is behind them  
6 Catfish Row in "Porgy and Bess," e.g.  
7 "What \_\_\_ of the face is here!": Thomas Paine, "Common Sense"  
8 Cast in a certain role  
9 Absorb  
10 Stationery store stock: Abbr.  
11 One more than cinque  
12 Shore border built up by waves and currents  
13 Ratatouille ingredient  
14 Something a loser may skip  
24 Lake \_\_\_, lowest point in Australia  
26 Be just right for  
28 Victorious soldier in May 1775  
30 Plural suffix?  
32 Cry after falling hard?  
33 Did some horse-trading  
34 Sommer of "The Prize"  
35 Feeler  
36 Shade  
39 Recompense  
41 Russia's Rostov, e.g.  
42 Top of a closet?  
43 Knighted Scottish singer Harry  
44 Lactates, e.g.  
47 Makes some lines disappear  
50 Early copter  
53 Sound system component?

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**Murder suspect in custody for allegedly killing wife**

» **ST. CHARLES, MO.** | A suburban Chicago man accused of killing his wife and three children was ordered held without bond Monday, while Illinois officials began efforts to have him returned to face murder charges.

Christopher Vaughn, 32, wearing an orange jail uniform, handcuffs and leg irons said nothing during the brief hearing, during which St. Charles County Associate Judge William Lohmar revoked a \$1 million cash bond set earlier.

Vaughn was arrested Saturday at a St. Charles funeral home just hours before a memorial service for 34-year-old Kimberly Vaughn and the couple's children, Abigayle, 12, Cassandra, 11, and Blake, 8.

Vaughn was under surveillance by jail staff, but was not on an official suicide watch, according to Waltrip and jail administrators.

**AMA probing retail-based health clinics for conflicts**

» **CHICAGO** | The AMA wants authorities to investigate whether quickie retail-based health clinics run by pharmacy chains pose conflicts of interest that put profits ahead of patient health.

The nation's largest physicians' group on Monday adopted a resolution vowing to seek an investigation after several AMA doctors complained that the clinics are "an abomination" of the traditional practice of medicine.

The AMA wants state and federal agencies to look into whether pharmacy chain-owned clinics located in pharmacies urge patients to get their prescriptions filled on site, which the AMA maintains would pose a conflict. It also said that insurance companies should be banned from waiving or lowering co-payments only for patients who get treatment at store-based clinics.

**Jurors in trial of Jose Padilla get lesson in Osama bin Laden**

» **MIAMI** | A prosecution expert began an al-Qaida tutorial Monday in the terrorism support trial of Jose Padilla and two other men as prosecutors sought to prove ties between the defendants and Osama bin Laden.

Although much of the case involves conflicts in places such as Chechnya, Bosnia and Somalia, prosecutors have concentrated on the link to al-Qaida.

Authorities consider establishing that connection critical to proving Padilla, Adham Amin Hassoun and Kifah Wael Jayyousi guilty of providing material support and conspiracy to murder, maim and kidnap people overseas.

If convicted, the defendants could be sentenced to life in prison.

**Plane crashes by Quad Cities; at least one person found dead**

» **COLONA** | At least one person was killed Monday when a small plane bound from Iowa to Kentucky crashed east of the Quad Cities, authorities said.

Federal Aviation Administration spokeswoman Elizabeth Isham Cory said the plane was headed from Waterloo, Iowa, to Georgetown, Ky., when it crashed shortly after 8 a.m. in a soybean field north of Colona, a town of about 5,000 people east of the Quad Cities.

Two people who were about a quarter-mile away reported hearing the plane's engine, and then "heard a thud," Illinois State Police trooper Jason Wilson told the (Rock Island) Argus and (Moline) Dispatch.

The crash occurred not far from the Quad Cities International Airport, but Cory said it appears the plane was passing over and not approaching for a landing.



AUTUMN CRUZ | SACRAMENTO BEE

Tahoe Mountain Firefighters set a burn off of Tahoe Mountain Road to stop a massive fire in South Lake Tahoe in California, on Monday, June 25, 2007.

# Fire blazes close to Lake Tahoe

200+ buildings destroyed, famously clear lake now clouded with ash

Associated Press

**MEYERS, CALIF.** | A wildfire raged out of control near Lake Tahoe on Monday, forcing hundreds of residents to flee towering flames that destroyed more than 200 buildings, turned the sky orange and fouled the lake's famously clear waters with falling ash.

Many hotels offered free rooms as families clung to one bit of good news: Despite the destruction, there were no reports of injuries.

"All the memories are gone," said Matt Laster, a legal assistant forced to flee his rented home of five years with his wife, two young children and cat.

He showed up at a recreation center looking for clothes and a sleeping bag.

The blaze, which authorities believe was caused by some kind of human activity, had scorched almost 2,500 acres nearly 4 square miles and was about 5 percent contained.

About 1,000 people had evacuated from the path of the flames, and authorities feared up to 500 other houses could be threatened in this resort area along the California-Nevada state line.

More than 700 firefighters were on hand, but plans to send up airborne tankers and helicopters to drop water and retardant over the heavily wooded, parched terrain were scrapped because of low visibility from the thick smoke.

Firefighters hoped to bring the blaze under control ahead of high winds and low humidity forecast for the middle of the week.

Dozens took up defensive positions around South Lake Tahoe High School as flames came within a quarter mile of the 1,500-student school.

"We have a window right now where we're really trying to aggressively attack this fire," said Daniel Berlant, a spokesman for the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection in Sacramento.

El Dorado County Sheriff's Lt. Kevin House said there were no reports of missing persons, but "the truth is we haven't really been able to get in there and see."

Along the lake's southern shore, a layer of black, mushy ash lapped along boat docks, raising fears the fire also could have disastrous long-term economic consequences for a community heavily dependent on the lake's recreational tourism.

California officials declared a state of emergency, meaning the state would cover all firefighting costs.

The National Weather Service issued a dense smoke advisory warning people from South Lake Tahoe to Carson City, Nev., that heavy ash was making it difficult to see and breathe.

The fire broke Sunday afternoon on a ridge separating the resort community of South Lake Tahoe from Fallen Leaf Lake, a recreation area where a U.S. Forest Service campground was evacuated.

Firefighters were aided Monday by winds that had slowed to 12 mph after gusting to about 35 mph the day before.

Forecasters warned that if high winds and low humidity returned, the fire could threaten more than 500 homes bordering the lake.

By early afternoon Monday, 173 homes had been lost to flames and many others were damaged, along with dozens of outbuildings, authorities said.

All that remained of entire neighborhoods in Meyers were the smoldering silhouettes of stone and concrete chimneys.

In other areas, the fire seemed to randomly skip some homes, but downed power lines, trees and debris made clear that life would not return to normal anytime soon, even for those whose homes were spared.

The burned neighborhoods were a hodgepodge of million-dollar vacation homes, cabins and modest houses strung along the east side of the ridge.

At least three members of the local fire department were believed to have lost their homes.

Steve Yingling, sports editor for the Tahoe Tribune newspaper, had little hope that his house survived.

He was leaving for work Sunday afternoon when he heard the sirens.

"I looked back and saw the huge plume of smoke," he said Monday. "That's when I really started to get scared because I know the danger alert that we've had in this area. Especially this year with the mild winter that we had."

State and federal fire officials had warned of a potentially active wildfire season in the Sierra Nevada following an unusually dry winter.

The annual May 1 snow survey found the Tahoe-area snowpack at just 29 percent of normal levels, the lowest since 1988.

Fire restrictions have been in effect in the Tahoe National Forest since June 11.

The most common cause of blazes in the area is abandoned campfires, according to the U.S. Forest Service.

Anxious residents barred from returning to the fire-damaged area jammed the lobby of Lake Tahoe Community College in South Lake Tahoe, hoping to get word from authorities on whether their homes were still standing.

Some left in tears; others were thankful to have escaped the worst.

Cathy Martin of South Lake Tahoe e-mailed her son, a Marine serving in Iraq, to tell him about the fire.

"We're very lucky that we are safe," said Martin, whose home was not damaged. "But I'm telling you this is awful for this community."

In Alaska, damp, cooler weather helped slow a wildfire in a popular recreation area on the Kenai Peninsula south of Anchorage that had destroyed about 70 homes and cabins and was threatening hundreds more.

The Kenai blaze, reported on June 19, had spread across nearly 90 square miles and was only about 10 percent contained Monday, fire officials said.

## NATION

TUESDAY  
6.26.07

### nationbriefs

**Student speech limited in Supreme Court decision**

» **WASHINGTON** A high school student's "Bong Hits 4 Jesus" banner got slapped down by the Supreme Court in a decision Monday that restricts student speech rights when the message seems to advocate illegal drug use.

The court ruled 5-4 in the case of Joseph Frederick, who unfurled his handiwork at a school-sanctioned event in 2002, triggering his suspension and leading to a lengthy court battle.

"The message on Frederick's banner is cryptic," Chief Justice John Roberts said. But the school principal who suspended him "thought the banner would be interpreted by those viewing it as promoting illegal drug use, and that interpretation is plainly a reasonable one," Robert said in the majority opinion.

In a concurrence, Justices Samuel Alito and Anthony Kennedy said the court's opinion "goes no further" than speech interpreted as dealing with illegal drug use.

The case is *Morse v. Frederick*, 06-278.

**Castro says Bush 'authorized and ordered' his death in essay**

» **HAVANA** | Fidel Castro on Monday accused President Bush of "authorizing and ordering" an attempt on his life, although his rambling essay on the subject provided no details.

Castro's essay noted that President Gerald Ford signed an order banning official assassinations, and said he didn't believe that Presidents Jimmy Carter and Bill Clinton ever tried to have him killed.

But Castro alleged that Bush has other ideas.

"Why did I say one day in a reflection that Bush authorized or ordered my death? This phrase can seem ambiguous and imprecise," Castro wrote. "Perhaps it would be more exact, although even more confusing, to say that he authorized it and ordered it."

Castro promised to explain himself, but never did, writing only that "really it is a mystery to name those responsible for the hundreds of attempts on my life, all the direct and indirect forms to cause my death were used."

The White House had no reaction to Castro's statement.

**WWE Wrestler found dead, autopsy not yet released**

» **FAYETTEVILLE, GA.** | WWE wrestler Chris Benoit, his wife, and son were found dead Monday and police said they were investigating the deaths as a murder-suicide.

Detective Bo Turner told television station WAGA that the case was being treated as a murder-suicide, but said that couldn't be confirmed until evidence was examined by a crime lab.

The station said that investigators believe the 40-year-old Benoit killed his wife, Nancy, and 7-year-old son, Daniel, over the weekend, then himself on Monday. A neighbor called police, and the bodies were found in three rooms.

Lead investigator Lt. Tommy Pope, of the Fayette County Sheriff's Department, told The Associated Press the deaths were being investigated as homicide, and that the causes of death awaited autopsy results on Tuesday.



## SPORTS

TUESDAY  
6.26.07

## scoreboard

## PANTHER SPORTS SCHEDULE

## PANTHER SPORTS CAMP

**Friday - Boys HS/JH Basketball |**  
Through Sunday

## PANTHER SPORTS CAMP

**July 8 Coed Tennis Camp II |**  
Through Wednesday July 11

## PANTHER SPORTS CAMP

**July 8 Boys Advanced Soccer |**  
Through July 12

SCOTT RICHEY | FORE!

It's like  
being a kid  
again

I was fortunate enough to go to three St. Louis Cardinals games this month which is three times more than the one game I saw last year.

The Cardinals managed to win only one of the games I saw, but nonetheless, I simply enjoyed being at the ballpark.

There's just something special about seeing the game live in person. I'm a baseball fan and will watch almost any game on TV, but the ballpark atmosphere lends so much more to the game.

The stark contrast between sitting on my couch watching the game by myself and being one of nearly 40,000 screaming fans is significant. The game I enjoyed the most was a 2005 interleague contest between the Cardinals and the Boston Red Sox.

More than 50,000 baseball fans crammed into Busch Stadium to see a rematch of the previous year's World Series. After being swept in the Series by the Red Sox, I wanted nothing more than for the Cardinals to exact some revenge on them that game.

My wish was fulfilled, and the advent of "Cardinal Love" was created that night. I didn't know more than three people at the game, but I was high-fiving and pounding fists with anyone wearing Cardinals' apparel that night.

I've seen the Cubs play at Wrigley Field, the Twins play at the Metrodome and the Brewers play at Miller Park, but no stadium feels more like home than Busch Stadium in St. Louis.

That's why I was upset when the Cardinals demolished old Busch and built another in its stead. I had a lot of history at old Busch, but I've come to enjoy the new stadium just as much.



» SEE RICHEY  
PAGE 5

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## Baker keeps career in sports

## Eastern Alum, former football player and NFL referee reflects on his life in sports

By Kristy Mellendorf  
City Reporter

Ken Baker has made multi-million dollar decisions. He has been able to be on television and meet people like Steve Young.

Ken Baker was an NFL referee for eleven years.

Ken Baker, Director of the Recreation Center, has been a life-long resident of Charleston.

Baker was a tri-athlete at Charleston High School, playing football, baseball and basketball in high school. While at Eastern, Baker played football.

He graduated from Eastern in the undergraduate program in 1972 and then for his master's degree in 1973. Baker taught for two years before going back to school to be an optician, a career he kept for 17 years.

"I realized after a few years I was missing sports in my life, which is when the refereeing came in," Baker said.

This career led him away from Eastern and Charleston for some time.

Baker began officiating, starting at the bottom. He began his work at high school football games. He worked his way up through the ranks of small college and eventually to Big 10.

"I had people following me at all the games, paying attention to what I was doing," Baker said.

His break came at a Notre Dame/ Purdue game. It was during this game that the NFL was looking at one of Baker's colleagues. After the game, Baker applied in the NFL and hired not long after. Background checks were a part of the process the entire way.

Baker has a typical schedule when he has a game to officiate. He arrives the day before for every game. On this day, he has five hours of meetings to sit through regarding the games. He must also take a written test regarding the rules of the game.

Baker returned to Eastern in 1994 to teach. In 2000, he became the director of the Recreation Center.

"I just enjoy working with students, they're so energetic and smart," Baker said.

Baker's position in officiating can be stressful.

"Stress is in the eye of the beholder," Baker said. "Going through the airport is actually most stressful."

As an NFL employee, Baker is under tight restriction. He cannot go to Las Vegas without bodyguards. If he were to be under the suspicion of driving under the influence, he would be immediately fired.

"I understand it, because there are so many bets placed on the football games," Baker said.

Baker has not spent much time getting into arguments with the players or coaches.

"It takes two to argue and I'm not one to argue," Baker said.

Baker now spends his time in the reply booth. He retired from the field in 2001, after the events of Sept. 11 and loss in his family.

"Refereeing is not supposed to be fun, there is a lot riding on it," Baker said. "It is fulfilling to know that you've reached the pinnacle your field."

Baker considers his family to be of top priority. "My number one job will always be with Eastern," Baker said.

## KEN BAKER



FILE PHOTO

Ken Baker, director of the student recreation center updates the apportionment board members on the new recreation equipment ordered for the students of Eastern Illinois University Thursday night in the Arcola/Tuscola room in the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

## EIU Sports Round-up

## Panther track &amp; field add new recruits

The Panther men and women's Track and Field teams have recently announced ten new additions for their rosters next season.

The defending Ohio Valley Conference champions recruited local talent as well as runners from around Illinois.

Terasita Williams of Casey-Westfield High School and Megan Gingerich of Arthur High School have both signed national letters of intent to run for Eastern next season.

Joining them will be Dave Anczyk of Mt. Prospect, Chad Aubin of Mattoon, Jacob Blum of Troy, Harrison Bueno of Crystal Lake, Julian Moore of Frankfort, Nicolous Rousonelos Minooka, Dave Sherman of Belleville and Jori Wilson of Mattoon.

## Strackeljahn qualifies for nationals

Daniel Strackeljahn, recent Eastern graduate and former Panther runner recently qualified for the USA Track & Field National Championships. Strackeljahn qualified for the Indianapolis competition in the 1,500-meter run.

During his final season at EIU, Strackeljahn was named the 2007 OVC Indoor Male Track Athlete of the Year and earned CoSIDA/ESPN the Magazine Academic All-District honors. Strackeljahn is currently waiting to hear whether his time has earned him a spot at the National Championships.

Should he be denied, he will focus his attention on the Olympic Trials next summer where he would need to get a time under 3:43.00 in the 1,500-meter run.

## Thomas and Rucker earn honors

Senior football players Donald Thomas and Micah Rucker have been listed among the top 5 preseason players at their positions.

Thomas, a St. Louis native, was named the top linebacker in the FCS ranks. Thomas earned Ohio Valley Conference Defensive Player of the Year honors with his team leading 127 tackles.

Rucker was named the third best receiver in the FCS. Rucker was first team all-OVC during his junior season scoring 13 touchdowns and 49 catches for 966 yards.

His 74 receiving yards per game ranked 28th in the nation this past season, and he became the first Panther football player to top 800 yards in a season since 1986.